of medicines as reported in the Financial Express of the 3rd July, 1990; and

(b) is so, whether Government have issued any guidelines to such producers so as to protect the interests of consumers, if so what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Some such instances have come to the notice of the Government. However, Government has fixed Ceilings on packing material charges. While fixing prices of formulations falling under price controlled Categories, either the packing material ceilings or the actuals, whichever is lower, is taken into account.

Non-commissioning of a project by ONGC in Champaran district of Bihar

830. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has abandoned a project for prospecting oil and gas in the Champaran district in Bihar; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Decline in oil production at Bombay High and Heera Oilfields due to operational mismanagement

831. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank Consultants have held that the reservoirs of Bombay High and Heera Oilfields in the estern Offshore region are being mismanaged resulting in a sharp decline in oil production;

(b) if so, whether Government have inquired into the matter and fixed the responsibility for such lapses;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) what steps are being taken to ensure better exploration of our oil resources; and

(e) what is the anticipated loss in oil resources on account of such lapses?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (e) Only a summary of the preliminary findings of the World Bank Report on Evaluation of India's oil and gas Production has been received. The detail findings are awaited. It would be premature to say if there has been any decline in oil production from reservoirs of Bombay High and Heera oilfields in Western Offshore region due to mismanagement. There have been conflicting reports and differences in technical opinions as to whether any permanent damage has been caused to Bombay High reservoirs.

Government has appointed a committee to go into all these issues on 26-4-1990 under the Chairmanship of Shri A. B. Das Gupta an eminent geo-scientist and a retired Chairman of Oil India. The following are the terms of reference of the Committee:—

To review the development and management of the Bombay High Reservoirs (Bombay High South and Bombay High North) and to specifically determine:

(i) whether the levels of withdrawal of crude oil from the reservoirs have been in line with the levels recommended by the developmental schemes prepared from time to time;

(ii) whether the deviations, if any, in the levels of production were justified according to the accepted industry practices, having due regard to the point of view of production and reservoir health;

(iii) whether alternative pressure maintenance schemes were examined and evaluated by ONGC over a period of time and if so, the results thereof;